

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for pre-selecting disks coupled to a storage system,
2 the method comprising the steps of:
- 3 obtaining, by a processor, a set of system characteristics;
4 obtaining, by said processor, a plurality of disk characteristics;
5 comparing, by said processor, the system characteristics with the disk characteris-
6 tics;
7 selecting, by said processor, disks whose disk characteristics match the system
8 characteristics and displaying the selected disks in a GUI.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the se-
2 lected disks to a user.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the system characteristics comprise char-
2 acteristics of a volume of the storage system.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of obtaining system characteristics
2 further comprises the steps of:
3 retrieving the volume characteristics from a volume table, the volume table cre-
4 ated and maintained by a file system layer of an operating system executing on the stor-
5 age system.

1 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the system characteristics are obtained
2 from a registry of the storage system.

1 6. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein the registry further comprises:
2 an application program interface, the application program interface permitting programs
3 to interface with the registry.

1 7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the pre-selection occurs when a menu is
2 displayed to a user.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) for managing a file server, the
2 GUI comprising:
3 a disk selector menu for identifying disks that may serve as candidates for a set of
4 operations, said disk selector menu prepared by a processor and said disks identified by
5 said processor, the set of operations including addition of disks to a volume and creation
6 of a volume, the disk selector menu only displaying disks which are valid for the opera-
7 tion.

1 9. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 8 wherein the disk selector menu is a
2 component of a web page and displayed in a web browser.

1 10. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 8 wherein the disk selector menu
2 only displays disks which are valid for a specific volume of the network storage.

1 11. (Original) A computer-readable medium operating on a storage system, the com-
2 puter-readable medium including program instructions for performing the steps of:
3 obtaining system characteristics;
4 obtaining a plurality of disk characteristics;
5 comparing the disk characteristics to the system characteristics;
6 selecting disks whose disk characteristics match the system characteristics; and
7 displaying a list of the selected disks that may be added to the disks active in the storage
8 system.

1 12. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 wherein the computer-
2 readable medium is a Java servlet.

1 13. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 wherein the system charac-
2 teristics further comprise:
3 a set of volume characteristics.

14. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 further programmed to perform the step of displaying the selected disks to the user, said list including only selected disks from a spare pool of disks and no others.

15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 further programmed to perform the step of displaying the selected disks to the user in a disk selector menu.

16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 wherein the disk selector menu is a component of a web page and displayed in a web browser.

17. (Currently Amended) Electromagnetic signals propagating over a computer network, the electromagnetic signals carrying information for practicing the method of claim 1 [5].

18. (Currently Amended) A method of pre-selecting disks to be displayed in a menu, the pre-selecting occurring before the menu is displayed, the method comprising the steps of:
obtaining, by a processor, a set of system characteristics;
obtaining, by said processor, a set of spare disk characteristics;
comparing, by said processor, the system characteristics to the spare disk characteristics; and,

7 pre-selecting, by said processor, a plurality of spare disks whose characteristics
8 match the system characteristics and displaying in the menu at least one pre-selected disk.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A method of pre-selecting disks to be added to a volume of a
2 storage system, the method comprising the steps of:
3 obtaining, by a processor, a set of volume characteristics by calling an application
4 program interface of a registry;
5 obtaining, by said processor, a set of spare disk characteristics by calling the ap-
6 plication program interface of the registry; and
7 pre-selecting, by said processor, a set of disks based upon the spare disk charac-
8 teristics matching the set of volume characteristics.
